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Although the data center has committed not to use potable drinking water, it is still using water that is necessary for the survival of the ecosystem that our independence relies on.

The Rio Grande River ran entirely dry last year, with dead fish in the riverbank. It is very low this year already (July 2026).

The river sustains a structural part of the ecosystem (if you visit you will see) as well as provides sustainable independence for small farms and ranches especially in the reservations, we are talking about nonpotable water here, drinking water is not the only concern,obviously.....

Comparing the water usage to the water usage of 9 households seems logical on the surface, but is not actually comparable because human households and humans living also participate in the water cycle (returning), and data centers do not. This comparison also serves to make it sound like it is not that much being siphoned, but you really don't know how much siphoning is critical when we are talking about a desert.

A tiny stream can be enough to hold alive a waterway during a drought.